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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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S E C R E T

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COUNTRY Hungary/USSR

REPORT

SUBJECT

Explosives Plant, Budapest
(Nagyatény District) *(Detonator production)*

DATE DISTR.

10 MAY 1957

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REFERENCES

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PLACE & DATE ACC

SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

report (supplement) on the explosives plant which has its headquarters in the Nagyatény District of Budapest. The report contains information on:

- a. Detonator No. 161, which according to hearsay was to be a component of the Soviet atomic bomb, but might actually turn out to be an ordinary artillery detonator,
- b. Production,
- c. Military supervision of the plant.

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S E C R E T

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STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FBI	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	AEC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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SECRET.

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March 6th, 1957.

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HUNGARY.

Explosives Factory at NAGYTATNY.

1.

"161" Detonator was for use in atom bombs but it
quite likely that this may not have been the case.

2.

also

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the "161" Detonator was for the U.S.S.R. it was an ordinary artillery detonator and had
nothing to do with atom bombs.

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3. When the original Russian instructions for the manufacture of the detonator were received, the workmen and the chief engineer only knew it was to be given the name "161" and was to be made according to Russian designs. In 1951, after the "161" had been manufactured for about a month, Radio Free Europe announced that this factory was making a "161" detonator which was part of the Russian atom bomb, and this must have started the rumors.

4. No changes in the method of manufacture of the detonator were undertaken since its inception.

5. While the capacity was 50,000 per day, the production was generally much lower and was according to the orders received. For instance in 1951 production took place during three months, in 1952 not at all, in 1953 during two months and in 1954 only during the last quarter, in 1955 not at all and in 1956 only during January.

6. The detonator was taken away by Russian military which called at the works, usually during the first days of the month.

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